

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Please enter the following new claims:

19. (New) A wave power assembly comprising;

a hull;

a linear electric generator having a rotor and a stator, said rotor being connected to said hull so that lifting force is transferred from said hull to said rotor, said stator being adapted to be anchored to a sea/lake bottom; and

spring means configured to exert a force on said rotor, which force, during at least a part of the motion of said rotor, counter-directs the lifting force exerted on said rotor by said hull as a consequence of the motion of said hull and the force exerted by said spring means, said rotor being configured to execute a reciprocating motion between two end positions defining the length of stroke of said rotor, said rotor having a predetermined fixed maximum length of stroke;

said spring means being configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to about 50% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 2.5 as a maximum.

20. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein the size of said force varies by a factor of 1.25 as a maximum.

21. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 20, wherein the size of said force is substantially constant.

22. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means is configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which force varies by a factor of ten as a maximum.

23. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 20, wherein said spring means is configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which force varies by a factor of ten as a maximum.

24. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 21, wherein said spring means is configured to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which force varies by a factor of ten as a maximum.

25. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 22, wherein said spring means is arranged to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 1.5 as a maximum.

26. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 23, wherein said spring means is arranged to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 1.5 as a maximum.

27. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 24, wherein said spring means is arranged to, at a motion amplitude corresponding to 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor, exert a force, the size of which varies by a factor of 1.5 as a maximum.

28. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means comprises a gas spring.

29. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means comprises a mechanical spring.

30. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means has a non-linear spring characteristic.

31. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means comprises an actively controlled spring.

32. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring comprises a plurality of springs.

33. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 19, wherein said spring means is configured to, over a short distance next to the end position of said rotor that corresponds to the position of said hull on a crest of a wave, at the maximum length of stroke, exert a force that is many times greater than the maximum force below a motion amplitude of 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

34. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 22, wherein said spring means is configured to, over a short distance next to the end position of said rotor that corresponds to the position of said hull on a crest of a wave, at the maximum length of stroke, exert a force that is many times greater than the maximum force below a motion amplitude of 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

35. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 25, wherein said spring means is configured to, over a short distance next to the end position of said rotor that corresponds to the position of said hull on a crest of a wave, at the maximum length of stroke, exert a force that is many times greater than the maximum force below a motion amplitude of 90% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

36. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 33, wherein said short distance constitutes less than 10% of the maximum length of stroke of said rotor.

37. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 33, wherein said means is configured so that the force next to said end position increases with decreasing distance to the end position.

38. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 36, wherein said means is configured so that the force next to said end position increases with decreasing distance to the end position.

39. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 33, wherein said spring means comprises at least one separate spring element for applying force over said short distance.

40. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 36, wherein said spring means comprises at least one separate spring element for applying force over said short distance.

41. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 37, wherein said spring means comprises at least one separate spring element for applying force over said short distance.

42. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 39, wherein each of said separate spring elements consists of a mechanical compression or a tension spring.

43. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 40, wherein each of said separate spring elements consists of a mechanical compression or a tension spring.

44. (New) The wave power assembly according to claim 41, wherein each of said separate spring elements consists of a mechanical compression or a tension spring.

45. (New) A wave power plant comprising a plurality of wave power assemblies according to claim 19.

46. (New) Use of a wave power assembly according to claim 19 in order to generate electric energy.

47. (New) A method to generate electric energy by means of at least one wave power assembly according to claim 19.